

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention that the Office Action Summary incorrectly identifies the date of Applicants' previous submission (i.e. the RCE) as October 17, 2003. Applicants' previous submission was filed under Certificate of Mailing procedures on October 15, 2003.

Claims 1-13 remain in this application.

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 5-8 are allowed. Moreover, claims 4 and 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 13 would also be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants' believe that the Examiner mistakenly included this rejection as the Detailed Action is silent as to the particulars of the rejection. And, it is believed that all of the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, errors were previously corrected in Applicants' Amendment that accompanied the RCE.

Claims 1-3 and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Divljakovic et al (U.S. Patent 6,087,836). According to the Examiner, Divljakovic discloses an electrical conductor comprising a single bare wire abutting itself in a first curvilinear row and which is coiled about an insulated conductor. The Examiner then relies upon Gray (U.S. Patent 5,545,379) to teach a plurality of bare wires.

Divljakovic teaches a surrogate sample 22 configured for having its insulation fail before insulation wires in a winding fails, in order to foreshadow failure of the winding. The surrogate

sample utilizes a single bare wire for transmitting a signal to an alarm when surrogate insulation failure occurs. There is no need, or desire, to provide for more than one bare wire. As such, Divljokovic does not suggest or provide any motivation for having more than one bare wire.

Further, although Gray teaches multiple bare wires, the Examiner's reliance on Gray is unfounded. Gray teaches that these wires must be spaced apart in order to properly function. Col. 3, lines 34-47; See also Abstract. Accordingly, Grey teaches away from providing multiple bare wires abutting each other, as required in each of the rejected claims.

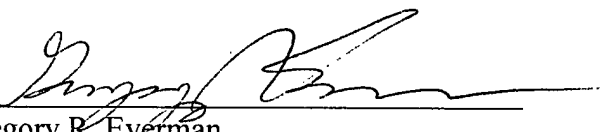
Still further, applying the teachings of Gray to Divljokovic does not yield the subject invention as claimed. Instead, the combination of the prior art patents provide for spaced apart bare wires, wherein each particular bare wire may abut itself but not any of the other bare wires.

Each claim, as now presented, is believed novel and non-obvious over each of the cited references taken singular or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendment and these remarks, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MILLER, EVERMAN & BERNARD, PLLC

By 
Gregory R. Everman
Reg. No. 47,553
Telephone: (704) 523-1193